

multiparty democracy. Free and fair elections are held at all levels of government—elections in which nearly 70 percent of Taiwan's citizens participate. The Taiwanese enjoy many freedoms including the right of assembly, expression and association, freedom of religion and freedom of the press. Human rights are well-established and protected. Taiwan is committed to upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, and the Declaration and Action Program of the 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights.

Taiwan has the world's 12th largest economy and is the United States 8th largest trading partner. Its GDP of \$386 billion is the 23rd largest in the world. However, perhaps more impressive is the fact that only 1 percent of its population live below the poverty line. Its thriving, market-based economy has enabled it to contribute generously to international aid efforts. In the first half of 2001, Taiwan provided nearly \$700,000 through its International Cooperation and Development Program. The Republic of China-Central American Economic Development Fund has also enabled it to solidify cooperative relationships with Central American nations and reflects Taiwan's growing interest in that area.

Last year, Secretary of State Colin Powell praised Taiwan, stating that it has become "a resilient economy, a vibrant democracy and a generous contributor to the international community." He called it a "success story" for Asia and the world—words with which I heartily agree.

It is particularly important at this time to recognize and to thank nations that have been our unswerving friends for many years. We must also acknowledge those democracies that have stood as our allies. I take great pleasure in congratulating Taiwan on its National Day celebration and look forward to a continuation of our mutually beneficial relationship.

HONORING THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SENATOR PAUL WELLSTONE

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about a great man, a man who died before his time, the late Senator Paul Wellstone.

On October 25, 2002, the people of Minnesota, the Senate and our nation lost a beloved colleague and humanitarian. Paul Wellstone was a man of deep convictions who cared deeply for those around him. A champion of working families, the poor, the disenfranchised, the forgotten, the voiceless, and the disabled, Paul Wellstone was a liberal Democrat in the truest sense of the term during a time when liberalism was not politically fashionable.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Wellstone took stands on issues of principle. He voted against the Resolution authorizing the use of military force in Iraq and the 1996 Welfare Reform Act. He was the only Democrat to vote against the Democratic version of the estate tax repeal; opposed the Administration's national missile defense program and was against permanent normal trade relations with China. Paul

Wellstone was not ashamed of voting his conscience, even if this meant that he would often stand alone. For this, Senator Wellstone won the accolades of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, as the son of immigrant Russian Jews, Paul Wellstone believed in the promise of America. Prior to his entry into the United States Senate, this plain-spoken man was a devoted and beloved associate professor of political science at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, where he taught for 21 years. And although diagnosed with a mild case of multiple sclerosis, Paul did not let it incapacitate him. He continued to fight for those issues dear to his heart: affordable universal health care, mental health parity, family leave, veterans affairs, and environmental protection.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly blessed to have known Paul Wellstone. On that fateful day 1 year ago on October 25, 2002, I lost a beloved friend and colleague and the world lost a fearless and selfless public servant and tireless advocate for justice. He has left a deep void in this institution and is truly missed. He is often remembered for a particular saying—that "people yearn for a 'politics of the center', not 'the center' so widely discussed by politicians and pundits in Washington, but, rather, a politics that speaks to the center of people's lives." On this 1-year anniversary of the death of this courageous and principled man I urge my colleagues to commit themselves to his legacy and fight for the things to which Paul Wellstone dedicated his life. I know I will.

A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF OF POLICE ELVIN G. MIALI ON THE OCCA- SION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding official of the city of Fountain Valley, California. Chief of Police Elvin G. Miali has devoted almost four decades of his life in service to his community and to his country. Chief Miali has excelled in his many law enforcement assignments over the years beginning in the city of San Gabriel and culminating in the city of Fountain Valley.

The experience, commitment and professionalism which Chief Miali brings to the leadership of a major law enforcement organization is highly respected and commended by his peers throughout Orange County and the State of California. Setting high standards for himself and all his department personnel and staff, he is known for achieving exceptional results under the most demanding of situations. The trademark of his leadership is "first class, the first time, every time."

Chief Miali began his law enforcement career on February 27, 1967, with the city of San Gabriel, California, where he rose through the ranks and achieved the position of Captain. During this time his assignments included the Detective Bureau for 12 years, six of which dealt with robbery and homicide. In August 1986, he was selected Chief of Police for the Fountain Valley Police Department. His community contributions during 17 years as Chief of Police include active efforts to combat drug abuse, child abuse, and drinking and

driving, as well as promoting charitable efforts such as helping underprivileged children at Christmas. Before it had a name, Chief Miali introduced the Community-Oriented Policing philosophy.

A most distinguished police officer with an undergraduate degree in Police Science, a master's degree in Public Administration, and a graduate of the POST Command College and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Program, Chief Miali is known throughout Fountain Valley and Orange County as one of the city's principal ambassadors.

Chief Miali, together with his wife Charli and their two children, Elvin and Carla, are proud citizens of Fountain Valley, a city which can rightfully look to Chief Miali for making its motto "A Nice Place to Live" happen every day.

Mr. Speaker, as Chief Miali completes his 36 years of devoted public service in law enforcement, and sets his course for new and ever challenging community involvement, I am sure my colleagues will join me in saluting him and thanking him for the exemplary job "well done"—for Fountain Valley, for California, and for America.

SYRIA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Act. This important legislation takes a strong and decisive stand against international terrorism. It also demonstrates the firm resolve of the United States in opposing those who support terrorism or provide funding and safe harbor for its perpetrators.

Syria continues to be a major sponsor of international terrorist groups, and has been listed by the State Department as a sponsor of terrorism since the inception of the terrorist list in 1979. Numerous terrorist groups, including Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and at least seven more, have headquarters in Damascus. In addition to offices, these groups maintain training camps and other facilities on Syrian territory. Hizballah, referred to as the "A-team of terrorism" by Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, operates in areas of Lebanon occupied by Syria and receives supplies from Iran through Syria. In doing so, Syria is in clear violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1373 which directs all states to "refrain from providing any form of support" for terrorism. Furthermore, their attacks on Israel, launched with the acquiescence of the Syrian government, harm innocent civilians and risk leading to a wider regional war.

In addition to its harboring of international terrorism, Syria's 20,000 strong occupation force has continued to occupy Lebanese territory, denying Lebanon its independence and political sovereignty. This occupation has also prevented Lebanon from fulfilling its obligation under UN Security Council Resolutions 425 and 520 to deploy its troops to southern Lebanon. As a result, southern Lebanon is under the control of the terrorist group Hizballah,

which has positioned thousands of katyusha rockets opposite Israel's northern border.

During our recently concluded campaign in Iraq, Syria aided the regime of Saddam Hussein, allowing arms and military equipment to be transported across the border into Iraq. When Baghdad fell, a number of high-ranking Iraqi officials from the defeated regime were sighted transiting through Syria and it is continuing to permit "volunteers" and others to enter Iraq for the purpose of attacking and killing Americans.

These actions are not those of an ally nor are they the work of a nation friendly to the United States. As we work toward a more stable and peaceful Middle East, we must be clear that nations that support terrorism will be held accountable. This legislation is clear in its intent and accomplishes just that.

I urge its full support and its immediate passage.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. STEPHEN
TWITTY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lt. Col. Stephen Twitty, who led the only infantry battalion—1,000 soldiers strong—in the initial attack on Baghdad, Iraq, this past April. His 15th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Battalion was fearless in the face of the heaviest fighting of the campaign and successfully completed their mission.

Lt. Col. Twitty witnessed casualties among his troops, and continued to lead his soldiers through the perils of suicide bombers, snipers, rocket-propelled grenades and a variety of other dangerous assaults. Later he had to keep his troops focused on their mission after the death of NBC reporter David Bloom, who was embedded with his regiment. He faced many potentially fatal situations by being on the frontline of American servicemen. As a result of his gallantry, he received the U.S. Army's third highest medal, the Silver Star, and is most likely on his way to becoming a colonel.

Lt. Col. Twitty is a native of Chesnee, SC, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, my alma mater, where he will serve as a grand marshal of this year's Homecoming Parade. He is in good company among the military ranks of SCSU graduates. The University currently has four alumni who are generals on active duty, one of whom was just named Commanding Officer of Fort Jackson.

Lt. Col. Twitty later received a master's in public administration from Central Michigan University. He has been stationed in both Belgium and Germany but now resides in Fort Stewart, GA.

This tour of duty isn't Lt. Col. Twitty's first time in combat. He is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, in which he was a member of the first infantry division to cross the Kuwait-Iraq border into enemy territory. He has also received decorations like the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star for his service to his nation in the most trying of situations. His interests in the military date back to his experiences in

South Carolina State's Reserve Officer Training Corps. He now has aspirations to attend the Army War College next year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Lt. Col. Stephen Twitty for his extraordinary dedication and his exemplary military service. He is an inspiration to the soldiers he commands and the next generation of soldiers to follow.

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, this year an estimated 40,000 mothers, sisters, daughters, friends and loved ones will die of breast cancer, and more than 210,000 new cases will be diagnosed. Throughout the month we have remembered those that have fallen victim to this disease, celebrated those who have survived it, raised awareness about the progress we've made, and called on scientists to aggressively continue the search for a cure.

Today, Democrats and Republicans, men and women alike are on the House floor to say—while we have made progress, further gains require a sustained commitment to expanding the national investment in cancer research, prevention, treatment, and outreach programs.

It is hard to believe, but when I was first appointed to the Appropriations Committee in 1991, the Federal government was spending just \$133 million on breast cancer each year. That investment has increased dramatically—to more than \$1.3 billion—between spending at the National Institutes of Health and Department of Defense.

This is remarkable, but all of the research in the world won't make a difference unless it is put into practice. That is why we must continue to invest in the Centers for Disease Control's Breast and Cervical Cancer screening program and better mammogram training and oversight to improve radiologists' ability to interpret mammograms.

We must also ramp-up efforts to find new and superior ways to detect breast cancer and study the relationship between breast cancer and the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I believe, while the government cannot cure cancer, it can put the resources in the hands of scientists who will. Together—along with advocates, survivors, scientists, and doctors—we can go the distance and stop this disease.

TITLE II—COMPACTS OF FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, President Clinton gave me the privilege to represent the

American people as Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia. I have a deep respect for the Island nations, and I am pleased that we have passed the new compact legislation out of the House.

Although most of the contentious issues in the compact have been addressed, the funding allocated for education concerns me. The RMI and FSM children have only just begun to benefit from the establishment of an integrated education system. I am very pleased to know that authorization for educational programs is included in the bill.

In my former profession of teaching I have witnessed the impact of early structured education. Young students are much better equipped to enter the educational system when they are exposed to education at an early age. The educational appropriations that Chairman REGULA has offered to support is critical to keep effective programs in place.

I also strongly support those provisions in this compact that provide for continued Pell grant eligibility for the FAS. It will bolster the ability of the FAS to cultivate education. The elimination of Pell grant assistance would have decimated the college system in the FAS altogether. A large portion of the operating funds for the College of Micronesia are obtained through Pell grants.

One other important area that I would like to point out is the reinstatement of FEMA assistance. It has been placed back into the Compact for infrastructure purposes and major catastrophes. USAID is not equipped to deal with all of the problems that arise on small islands nor do they have the ready response to help in a timely fashion. As we move forward with our unique relationship with the FAS I hope the U.S. Congress will be supportive and receptive to the needs of our friends.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to understand the importance of the FAS. I support this bill and look to endorse the final product as the other body considers the Compact.

HONORING GEORGE S. POFOK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of George S. Pofok, upon the occasion of his retirement from Cleveland Public Power (CPP).

George Pofok has spent the last 30 years in service to the city of Cleveland. Mr. Pofok started his career as an electrical engineer, and rose to become company's commissioner.

During Mr. Pofok's tenure as the commissioner, from 1985–1995, he was able to initiate one of the most productive periods of growth for Cleveland's power. He helped build the customer base from 50,000 to 80,000, as well as increasing the company's revenue to \$130 million per year. These strategies have left a legacy of high growth for the company, and low costs to customers. Since 1985, customers of Cleveland Public Power have saved more than \$320 million.

Mr. Pofok leaves a great legacy, none more important than the continuation of the tradition and strengthening the exercise of public power in the city of Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of George S. Pofok